REMARKS

Claims 1-16 are pending in the application.

Rejection under 35 U.S.C. 103

Claims 1 and 3-16 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Itoh (U.S. Patent 5,642,475). Claim 2 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Itoh in view of Hamilton (U.S. Patent 6,559,860). These rejections are respectfully traversed.

Applicants respectfully traverse the rejections of claims 1-16 of the present application for reasons that will be specifically addressed in following paragraphs. However, before addressing the details of the specific rejections, Applicants note that there are certain differences between the method of Itoh and that of the present invention. The present invention is applied to a path of motion editor for an animation editing apparatus and the method thereof. A path of motion is a technique used to endow multimedia objects with movement capabilities. A path of motion is not a technique only related to change of positions of an object. Itoh discloses a graphic editing apparatus and method for creating or editing graphics on a screen. The editing includes change of position of objects. Thus, the method of Itoh and that of the present invention are substantially different.

Regarding independent claims 1 and 11, first of all, the browser interface provided in the present invention includes parameter groups, which have a plurality of preloaded settings. The browser interface with preloaded settings can be provided for users to set features of the moving path, thereby increasing convenience. Itoh does not teach the preloaded settings of a browser interface.

Moreover, the office action cites that Itoh teaches a graphic editing apparatus for editing animated images (col. 1, line 7-16, Itoh). The office action cites ``Animated images correspond to multimedia.'' Also, the office action cites ``The editor may change the position of these animated objects, optionally with a predetermined script, so it is a moving-path editor'' (col. 1, lines 17-24, Itoh). In fact, the path of motion of a multimedia object indicates the possible movement paths of one object. The present invention can quickly create a multimedia object's path of motion via grouping parameters of a path of motion. The change of positions of animated images cannot be equalized to the path of motion of an object. Therefore, Itoh teaches the change of position of objects on a screen. The technique is different from a path of motion disclosed in the present invention.

Additionally, the present invention discloses a path of motion editor used in an animation editing apparatus to edit the path of motion of an object. The path of motion editor comprises a browser interface. The browser interface in the present invention includes a group of predefined parameters. Users can apply desired

parameters to the created objects and review the applying effect without adjusting each parameter individually. The interface described in Itoh is an interface for inputting changes to the movable graph (col. 24, lines 30-34). Therefore, the reference parameters, necessary components, and the executive functions of the interface disclosed in Itoh and the browser interface disclosed in the present invention are distinct. Thus, Itoh does not teach the claimed limitation of claims 1 and 11.

Furthermore, please note that the office action cites Itoh changes the position which is a translation or transition, enlarges or reduces which is scaling, and rotates (col. 1, lines 7-16, Itoh). The parameters usually used by users for analyzing the motion of an object are transition parameters, rotation parameter, and scale parameters. The reference parameters are similar because the method in Itoh and that in the present invention are both about an object's movement. Nevertheless, the analyzing method and the application steps are totally different. Thus, the parameters utilized in Itoh and the parameters applied to the present invention cannot be viewed as the same.

For the reasons stated above, it is submitted that Itoh does not teach or suggest the limitations of claims 1 and 11 of the present application. Therefore claims 1 and 11 and their dependent claims should be allowable over the cited reference.

Turning to dependent claim 2, this claim is allowable based on its dependency from allowable claim 1. Applicants further note that the content represented in a tree structure of the present

invention includes the preloaded transition settings, rotation settings and scale settings. However, the content represented in a tree architecture disclosed in Hamilton includes graphic objects in a project. Obviously, the tree architecture disclosed in Hamilton indicates objects management while the tree structure of the present invention indicates the editing of parameters of a path of motion. Thus, there is no motivation for a person of ordinary skill in the art to include the application initiating a browser interface including a tree structure to display all the settings.

As mentioned, the present invention differs significantly from the Itoh reference. None of the cited references, when taken alone or in combination, teach all of the limitations recited in claims 1 and 11 of the present application. All claims in the instant application should be allowable over the utilized references. In view of the foregoing remarks, Applicants respectfully request the Examiner's reconsideration of the application and the timely allowance of claim 1-16.

Conclusion

Should there be any outstanding matters that need to be resolved in the present application, the Examiner is respectfully requested to contact the undersigned at (703) 205-8000 in the Washington, D.C. area, to conduct an interview in an effort to expedite prosecution in connection with the present application.

If necessary, the Commissioner is hereby authorized in this, concurrent, and future replies, to charge payment or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 02-2448 for any additional fees required under 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.16 or 1.17; particularly, extension of time fees.

Respectfully submitted,

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